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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

California Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan

The California Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan provides a framework for responding to aquatic invasive species in California, and for protecting the biological integrity of California's waters and native plant and animal communities. This plan targets both marine and freshwater environments.

Background: An initial draft was developed for the Department of Fish and Game several years ago which included stakeholder meetings and input in the draft plan, but the plan was not completed due to funding and staffing issues. Additional funding was recently been awarded to the San Francisco Estuary Project (SFEP) from the Ocean Protection Council, through the Coastal Conservancy, to finish the State AIS Management Plan, and begin implementation of the plan.

Public Meetings: The following three public meetings will be held to solicit input on the revised draft plan:

SACRAMENTO: Monday, August 28, 2006: 1:00-4:00 PM California Dept. of Food & Agriculture Auditorium 1220 N Street, Sacramento, CA

OAKLAND: Wednesday, August 30, 2006: 1:00-4:00 PM Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG)/Metropolitan Transportation **Commission (MTC) Conference Room** 101 8TH Street, Oakland, CA

LONG BEACH: Friday, September 1, 2006: 9:00 AM- 12:00 PM Port of Long Beach Board Room 925 Harbor Plaza- 6TH Floor, Long Beach, CA

The Draft AIS State Plan and directions to the meeting sites will be posted for review on the following web site by 8:00 AM Tuesday, August 22: http://sfep.abag.ca.gov/projects/invasive_species.html

Written comments will be due at noon on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2006 (extended from original date of September 11, 2006). All written comments should be submitted at the public meetings or emailed or mailed to Dr. Karen McDowell, San Francisco Estuary Project, 1515 Clay Street, Oakland, CA 94612-1413, kmcdowell@waterboards.ca.gov, 510-622-2398.